

Sixteen Tons

as by: Tennessee Ernie Ford



Intro: [C] // [Am] // [E7] // [Am] /

Some... [Am] people say a man is [F] made out of [E7] mud
A [Am] poor man's [Am7] made out of [F] muscle and [E7] blood
[Am] Muscle and blood, and [Dm] skin and bones
A [Am] mind that's weak and a [E7] back that's strong

Chorus:

You load [Am] sixteen tons, [F] what do you [E7] get?
A[Am]nother day [Am7] older and [F] deeper in [E7] debt
Saint [Am] Peter, don't you call me, 'cause [Dm] I can't go
I [Am] owe my soul, to the [E7] company [Am] store
[C] // [Am] // [E7] // [Am] /

I... was, [Am] born one morning when the [F] sun didn't [E7] shine
I [Am] picked up my [Am7] shovel, and I [F] walked to the [E7] mine
I loaded [Am] sixteen tons, of [Dm] number nine coal
And the [Am] straw boss said, "Well, a[E7]bless my soul!"

(Repeat Chorus):

I..., was, [Am] born one mornin', it was [F] drizzlin' [E7] rain
[Am] Fightin' and [Am7] trouble, are [F] my middle [E7] name
I was [Am] raised in the canebreak by an [Dm] old mama lion
Cain't no [Am] high-toned woman, make me [E7] walk the line

Chorus:

You load [Am] sixteen tons, [F] what do you [E7] get?
A[Am]nother day [Am7] older and [F] deeper in [E7] debt
Saint [Am] Peter, don't you call me, 'cause [Dm] I can't go
I [Am] owe my soul, to the [E7] company [Am] store
[C] // [Am] // [E7] // [Am] /

If, you [Am] see me comin' better, [F] step a-[E7]side
A [Am] lot of men [Am7] didn't, a [F] lot of men [E7] died
[Am] One fist of iron, the [Dm] other of steel
If the [Am] right one don't get you then the [E7] left one will

Last Chorus:

You load [Am] sixteen tons, [F] what do you [E7] get?
A-[Am]nother day [Am7] older and [F] deeper in [E7] debt
Saint [Am] Peter, don't you call me 'cause [Dm] I can't go.....
I... [Am] owe... my [Am] soul... to the [E7] company [Am] store
[C] // [Am] // [E7] // [Am] /

